



## *Florida House of Representatives*

### Democratic Office

*Franklin Sands*  
*Democratic Leader*

*Geraldine F. Thompson*  
*Democratic Leader Pro Tempore*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT: Mark Hollis**  
**(850) 488-9622**

House Democratic Leader Franklin Sands issued the following statement today in response to Governor Charlie Crist's proposed 2009-10 state budget.

"Florida is in economic crisis. Our people are deeply worried about their jobs, their financial future, and their children's education. Today should be a day to begin the healing in a bipartisan manner.

"We applaud Governor Charlie Crist for showing courage and doing the right thing by making use of federal economic recovery funds in the state budget that he has presented to the Legislature. Like the governor, Florida House Democrats believe it is vital to use the federal economic recovery funds simply because our people need it.

"We share the governor's sense of compassion. We will fight to protect core state services, such as education and quality health care for all Floridians. And we are optimistic that the use of these federal stimulus dollars will help Florida's economy rebound and produce the jobs and revenue that our state needs.

"While we recognize the importance of fiscal restraint in the long term, it is essential that the Legislature move rapidly to bring about the economic recovery in the manner that Congress and President Obama have intended."

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